

Aerial Detection Survey, Pacific Southwest Region Central Coast, July 2018

Objective: The objective of this survey is to detect and record recently killed and damaged trees. Most of the mortality and damage is caused by insects and diseases.

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Methodology: Recent tree mortality is mapped using Digital Mobile Sketch Mapping systems. Surveyors draw polygons or affix points and annotate percent of forested area affected along with damage type, tree species, and causal agent. The five-class rating system is: Very Light (1-3%), Light (4 -10%), Moderate (11-30%), Severe (31-50%), and Very Severe (>50%).

Survey Highlights:

This report is of preliminary findings in and around the Los Padres National Forest and along the Coastal Range to the San Francisco Bay Area. Recent tree mortality is mostly comprised of tanoak, Jeffrey pine, live oak, and white fir. Tanoak mortality is concentrated north of the Santa Cruz Mountains and around the western boundary of the Ventana Wilderness on the Los Padres National Forest.

Jeffrey/ponderosa/Coulter pine mortality is concentrated on the northern boundary of the Chumash Wilderness and the Sespe Wilderness of the Los Padres National Forest.

Live oak mortality is concentrated in the Coyote Hills, west of Morgan Hills; black oak mortality is scattered in lower elevation areas.

Other conifer mortality includes grey and California foothill pine, bigcone Douglas-fir, California red fir, and Monterey pine.

Additionally, approximately 1,800 acres of Bishop Pine tree flagging, likely due to pitch canker, was detected north of Mount Hamilton.

Preliminary Summary (numbers may change)

Area surveyed: 5.1 million acres
Acres with mortality: 44,450 acres

Host	Acres with Mortality
Tanoak	27,200
Jeffery, ponderosa, and Coulter pine	7,700
Live and black oak	4,500
White fir	4,200
Other conifer	850
Total	44,450



Tanoak mortality likely caused by sudden oak death (*Phytophthora ramorum*) near Cape San Martin in Monterey County.



Fir mortality north of Pine Mountain on the Los Padres National Forest.

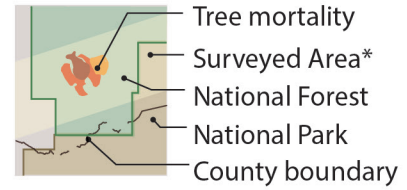


UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION AERIAL DETECTION MONITORING

2018 SURVEY Central Coast



* This map depicts tree mortality
only within the surveyed area.

Percent Trees Affected

- Very Light (1-3%)
- Light (4-10%)
- Moderate (11-29%)
- Severe (30-50%)
- Very Severe (>50%)

Map only depicts dead trees surveyed in 2018.

Areas of tree mortality are for visualization purposes only.



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